

## Message Text

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43

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 SSO-00 EB-07 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /027 W

----- 106952

R 040605Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4672

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, AEMR, XC

SUBJECT: EVACUATION OF AMERICAN EXPRESS STAFF FROM SAIGON

1. H.L. LANGER, DISTRICT MANAGER, AMERICAN EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL, TAIWAN, INFORMED EMBASSY THIS MORNING, APRIL 4, THAT HE HAS RECEIVED TELEX FROM AMERICAN EXPRESS HEADQUARTERS, ADVISING THAT FIRM SEEKING TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS EVACUATE SAIGON STAFF AND DEPENDENTS ASAP. LANGER IS INSTRUCTED TO FIND OUT IF ROC WILL PERMIT EVACUEES ENTER TAIWAN FOR "TEMPORARY" SAFEHAVEN.

2. ACCORDING TO LANGER, SAIGON STAFF INCLUDES 3 U.S. CITIZENS, 2 BRITS, AND SIZEABLE NUMBER VIETNAMESE NATIONALS. HE BELIEVES FEW, IF ANY, OF LATTER POSSESS TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION.

3. LANGER STATES AMERICAN EXPRESS WILL ATTEMPT CHARTER FLYING TIGER AIRCRAFT TO LIFT EVACUEES OUT OF SAIGON IF DEPARTURE VIETNAMESE NATIONALS CAN BE WORKED OUT AND SAFEHAVENS ARRANGED.

4. LANGER'S PURPOSE IN CALLING ON EMBASSY WAS TO SEEK FRIENDLY ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE (LANGER IS GERMAN NATIONAL WITH VIETNAMESE SPOUSE AND CHILDREN RESIDING IN SAIGON). HE  
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ASSUMES AMEXP REP SAIGON IN TOUCH WITH U.S. AND ROC

EMBASSIES THERE REGARDING EVACUATION PLANS. ALSO HE UNDERSTANDS AMEXP PEOPLE IN MANILA HAVE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO SOUND OUT PHIL AUTHORITIES ON WILLINGNESS ACCEPT EVACUEES.

5. EMBASSY GAVE LANGER SYMPATHETIC HEARING AND AGREED TO SET UP APPOINTMENT FOR HIM WITH APPROPRIATE ROC MOFA OFFICIAL. HOWEVER, WE AVOIDED EXPRESSING ANY OPTIMISM ABOUT ROC RECEPTIVITY TO PROVIDING SAFEHAVEN FOR "NON-REFUGEE" UNDOCUMENTED VIETNAMESE NATIONALS. WE DISCUSSED IN GENERAL TERMS PROBLEMS OF OBTAINING PASSPORTS AND EXIT PERMITS FROM GVN, BUT REFRAINED FROM ANY SPECULATION REGARDING GVN ACTIONS OR ATTITUDES ON THIS SCORE.

6. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S AND SAIGON'S ADVICE OR COMMENTS ON AMEXP APPROACH, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO EXTENT WE SHOULD SEEK TO ASSIST OR ENCOURAGE/DISCOURAGE SUCH EVACUATION AND SAFEHAVEN PLANNING. UNGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 04 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EVACUATION OF AMERICAN EXPRESS STAFF FROM SAIGON  
**TAGS:** BGEN, AEMR, XC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006